

The well is situated about one hundred yards from the graveyard of the church, and between it and the river. Between the burial-ground and the river the ground slopes gradually. Since the fall of 1874, the water has been purer, but many cases of diphtheria have occurred at various times in the rectory.

Dr. LEIDY remarked that his attention had been repeatedly directed to an impurity in our drinking-water differing from that usually mentioned. It often conspicuously appeared in the otherwise clear water when first drawn from the hydrant into a white basin or a tumbler, as diffused brownish or yellowish flakes. Though comparatively light, they soon settle to the bottom of the vessel. When first noticed he supposed that they were fragments of decaying woody fibres. On microscopic examination, he thought that he had recognized them to be largely composed of the castings of worms mingled with remains of confervæ and animalcules. The source of these he suspected to be the soft mud at the bottom of our reservoirs. This mud rapidly accumulates in the latter from the sediment of the Schuylkill water, and is a favorable nidus for the development of worms, various animalcules, and the growth of algous plants. He had often observed such mud colored bright red from the multitude of worms partially buried in it with the tail ends protruded and vibrating. The mucus secretions of the worms mingled with mud particles form tubes, and it is these which he thought he had recognized as forming most of the flakes in the drinking-water. The more frequent cleansing of the reservoirs from the accumulating sedimentary mud, Dr. L. thought, would promote the purity and healthfulness of the water.

*On Eozoon.*—Dr. LEIDY directed attention to the large and characteristic specimen of *Eozoon Canadense*, presented this evening by the Geological Survey of Canada.

For the information of those not familiar with the object, Dr. L. stated that it was regarded by many of the best zoologists as of animal origin, and as such had excited much interest from its being the oldest known fossil. It was found in the Laurentian rocks of Canada, and is considered to be the remains of a coral-like Rhizopod. Dr. L. was himself not fully convinced of its animal nature.

*On the Diaphragm.*—Dr. LEIDY remarked that the elevation of the dome of the human diaphragm was usually as high as the fifth rib, but that in the subject, used during his present anatomical course at the University, a well-formed muscular male, the diaphragm on the right side was elevated to a level with the anterior extremity of the third rib.